

SIX PARISHES NEWSLETTER



for
 St Giles' Church. Badger
 St Milburga's Church. Beckbury
 St Andrew's Church. Ryton
 Rector: Rev'd Keith Hodson tel 01952 750774



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Web Site: <http://www.beckburygroupministry.org.uk>

Rota of Services in the 6 Parishes – April 2017

	Badger	Beckbury	Ryton	Kemberton	Stockton	Sutton Maddock
April 2nd	9.30am Communion KH (trad)					11am Communion KH (trad) with choir
April 9th Palm Sunday		9.30am Communion KH (new)		11am Morning Worship LT		11am Matins KH
April 14th Good Friday	1pm Devotional	6.30pm Devotional				
April 16th Easter Communion	9am KH	9.30am CM	10am KH	11am KH		11am CM
April 23rd		4pm Memorial KH		8.15am Communion KH		11am Memorial KH
April 30th	9.30am Communion KH		9.30am Morning Worship LT		11am Communion KH (new)	

KH – Revd Keith Hodson:

CM – Revd Christine Mason

LT – Local Team

PRAYER OF THE MONTH

Grant to us and all who are laid low, O Lord,
 faith and hope in your risen presence with us
 that we may enjoy the benefits of your gift of new life now
 and rejoice in your promise of resurrection
 through Jesus Christ our risen Lord.

Amen.

Contributions for next month's newsletter to either –

David Tooth at Havenside, Beckbury – 01952 750324. Email - david.tooth2@btinternet.com

Or Ruth Ferguson at Tarltons, Beckbury – 01952 750267 not later than 14th of this month, please.



FROM THE RECTORY

Dear friends,

Our six churches are coping at present, not only with one and a half organists across all the churches (the “half” being our under-graduate who is only with us for part of the holidays), but also with only 5 organs. The Beckbury organ is being retired, with the required major overhaul being too expensive.

Thankfully for our weddings and funerals we invite the organists from Albrighton and Shifnal Churches to play for these special services, and Beckbury church committee are busy getting a new organ purchased. But that will not be until after Easter, so we are relying on our set of CDs with 400 pre-recorded hymn tunes.

One of my favourite Easter hymns, not sung very often as it is not as well known as the more traditional hymns, is *Now the green blade rises* sung to the old French carol Noel Nouvelet (and on one of the CDs).

*Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
Wheat that in the dark earth many years has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been;
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.*

*In the grave they laid Him, Love whom men had slain,
Thinking that He's never wake to life again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.*

*Up He sprang at Easter; like the risen grain,
He that for three days in the grave had lain;
Up from the dead my risen Lord is seen;
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.*

*When our hearts are saddened, grieving or in pain,
By Your touch You call us back to life again;
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.*

This is perhaps an Easter hymn more suited to rural churches where we see the greening of the fields as we walk and drive along the paths and lanes. And of course to gardeners, starting to sow seeds in these warmer days of spring. It's a lovely picture used by Jesus in his prediction about his death on Good Friday, and by St Paul in his explanation about resurrection (1Corinthians ch 15). So often we can see spiritual truths in God's creation around us, if we have eyes to see.

Wishing you a happy Easter

Keith Hodson

DIARY DATES FOR APRIL

Wednesday 5 th	7.30pm	Beckbury Parish Council meet in Village Hall
Wednesday 5 th	10pm	Prayers on Wednesday
Sunday 9 th		Palm Sunday Services, see front page
Tuesday 11 th	2pm	Friendship Club meet in Beckbury Village Hall
Sunday 16 th		Easter Services, see front page
Wednesday 19 th	10am	Prayers on Wednesday
Sunday 23 rd	11am	Memorial Service at Sutton Maddock Church
Sunday 23 rd	4pm	Memorial Service at Beckbury Church



CHURCH NEWS

The last of the **Lent lunches** at Trinity Church Shifnal will be 12pm on 5th April. Donations are for Christian Aid.

Easter Communion services are to be found in the services rota for 16th April. Note that some churches have different starting times compared with last year.

The annual memorial services on 23rd April, 11am at Sutton Maddock and 4pm at Beckbury are an opportunity to remember family members and friends who have died in recent years (or earlier as requested). In the short service there will be a chance to light a candle in their memory.

There is an **open deanery meeting** at 7.30pm in the Brook Room at the back of Shifnal Church on Wednesday 26th April. Revd Chris Thorpe offers slides and reflections on his walk from Lichfield to Bardsey Island (North Wales): *Open Your Church (or close it)!*

Thanks to members of the community at **Ryton** who have cut hedges, trimmed the base of the lime trees, and contributed to the costs of high level tree reduction in the church yard. It looks much neater and tidier after your work.

Church **AGMs** take place this month. Check with church members for details.

Friends of Ryton Church (FOSACRAG) are repeating the very enjoyable **Bluebell Walk** at Cosford Grange 11am – 4pm Sunday 14th May.

On 1st June 2pm **Shropshire Historic Churches Trust** will have their AGM at Ryton Church.

BAPTISMS

Congratulations to Michael Goss, son of Peter and Ruth, who was baptised at Beckbury Church on 12th March 2017.

CONDOLENCES

We extend our sympathies to the family of the late Janet Berry, aged 75, of Little Dawley whose service was held on 3rd March 2017 at Telford crematorium.

We extend our sympathies to the family of the late Ruth Williams, aged 75, of Sutton Maddock whose service was held on 10th March 2017 at Telford crematorium.

Mrs Barbara Ridge, of Badger, would like to thank everyone for the overwhelming kindness, support, flowers and cards after her Stroke on Boxing Day last year.

She is doing tremendously well and on the road to full recovery.

BECKBURY PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION

Parish Council elections are due to be held on Thursday 4th May. If anyone would like to put their name forward to serve on the council could you please contact Peter Gibbins on 750293 and request a nomination form which must be completed and returned before Tuesday 4th April.

We have a lively and enthusiastic council at the moment so why not try to be part of it.

SIX PARISHES FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Another afternoon of fiendish questions from quiz master John Whitham for the eighteen members present at our March meeting. There was some scratching of heads and muttering of what was he on about now, and some inspired guessing, followed by 'of course I knew that all along'. The question which foxed everyone was what was the first meal eaten by the first man after he landed on the moon, and great hilarity from all members when not one of us came up with the right answer. It was a lovely afternoon enjoyed by all, with the competition being won by Jenny and Barry Bradley, Margaret Downward and Vera George, albeit by a close margin.

For our meeting on Tuesday 11th April, we are having an afternoon of Bingo, starting at 2pm, and anyone who fancies a game of bingo will be most welcome.

BECKBURY PARISH COUNCIL

The Council met on Wednesday 1st March 2017.

Progress on the Community Shop Project was reported to the Council, the planning application has been approved and was announced in the last Parish Newsletter. Applications for grant funding are now being submitted to the Lottery and other funders of community projects and the Shop Committee are launching a share scheme to encourage the Parish to contribute to the project and have a say in the management of the shop. An explanatory leaflet and application forms will be delivered to every household during March.

Carl Steventon reported on the progress with the new website, www.beckburyparish.co.uk which now has further information on the community shop project as well as regular reports from the local police. Local walks are also featured on the website.

The Council discussed the communications with Shropshire Council on the possible extension to the conservation area around Beckbury village but in David Cummings and Heather Thomas's absence any decision was held over until the next meeting.

Parish Council elections, which are held every 4 years, are due on the 4th May. This is your chance to stand for election onto the Parish Council and if you are interested please contact Peter Gibbins, tel.750293, email peter@pcgassociates.plus.com. Nomination papers must be submitted to Shire Hall by 4th April so if you are prepared to stand for election to help the local community, please act quickly.

BECKBURY COMMUNITY SHOP – UPDATE

Every household should now have received a personal copy of the share application form. Thanks to the team who have helped distribute the leaflets and very special thanks to everyone who has donated so far. If anyone wants extra copies of the forms they are available in the porch of Beckbury Village Hall.

For those people that haven't applied for shares yet then please do so to help us make the shop happen.

If we fail to raise the funds necessary for the project then all the share money raised will be returned to the donors. You can find more about the plans on www.beckburyparish.co.uk where there is a copy of the business plan and a "Questions and Answers" document.

For the more IT aware, we also now have a twitter account – "beckburyshop" and you can find us on facebook – type in "beckburyshop".

BECKBURY ALLOTMENTS

WHAT TO DO ON THE ALLOTMENT IN APRIL

Spring is here, daffodils and bulbs are in flower and soon the trees will be in blossom. Don't be lulled into a false sense of security by the warm, sunny days though. On average there are 4 frosty nights in April as well as the infamous April showers, so don't get caught out. Make sure you protect your newly sprouting plants with a thick layer of fleece if frost is forecast.

Veg growers jobs for April

- Sow onions, beets, winter cabbage and first carrots
- Start succession growing of peas, beans, lettuce and radishes
- Finish planting late potatoes and catch up with earlies
- At the end of the month plant cauliflower

Outdoor sowing

- Crops to grow outdoors or under cloches include broad beans, beetroots, brussel sprouts, summer cabbage, leeks, hardy peas and radishes
- Tomatoes...many varieties can be grown outside in the summer. Sow late in March, potting on as they grow, then plant out in June
- Celery...sow seeds in pots in the greenhouse during March/April to plant out May/June
- Put up runner bean poles and start supporting the growing peas with netting
- Prepare seedbeds for outdoor sowing of main crop veg next month

How about growing some edible flowers. They look amazing amongst the vegetables. They are also great for encouraging useful predators. Violets, nasturtiums and marigolds are my favourite. Then there is, of course, the jolly old sunflowers who produce nectar and seeds for the wildlife.

And, finally, Happy Mother's Day to all you lovely mums out there, I for one will most probably be taking the day off from working on my allotment and be putting my feet up.

Heidi Pringle-Scott

SHOEBOX APPEAL FUNDRAISING EVENT

Sponsored Walk : Saturday 6th May

How do you fancy joining us for a sponsored 5 mile stroll and natter along the Silkin Way, finishing off with a pub lunch? We are meeting at Telford Town Park at 10.30am and walking to the Brewery Inn at Coalport.

For further information please contact Shiona Ferriday on 01952 730313

Hidden Valley.....

.....SECRET BLUEBELLS



Enjoy rare public access to a hidden gem

A family walk through glorious bluebells alongside an enchanting stream

Mysterious statues, sculptures and ruins

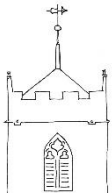
Dogs welcome on leads

Tea and homemade cakes

Sun 14 May 2017 11 am till 4 pm

Cosford Grange Woodland Walk

Cosford Grange Farm, Holyhead Road, Cosford, Shifnal, Shropshire



FOSACRAG

Friends of St Andrews Church Ryton and Grindle

The Spinney, Ryton, Shifnal, Shropshire, TF11 9JL

Telephone 750844

Charity Number 1149410

FOR SALE:

Wooden computer desk in very good condition

With full width sliding shelf

Size: 28" h x 29 ½" w x 20" d - £10.00

Please ring 01952 750324 for further details

Police call on public to help tackle increasingly complex and varied terrorist threats.

With the terror threat becoming increasingly complex and varied, police are calling on communities to act on their instincts to help prevent atrocities taking place in the UK and overseas. The appeal comes as new figures reveal that information from the public has assisted counter terrorism police in a third of the most 'high-risk' investigations, helping keep communities safe.

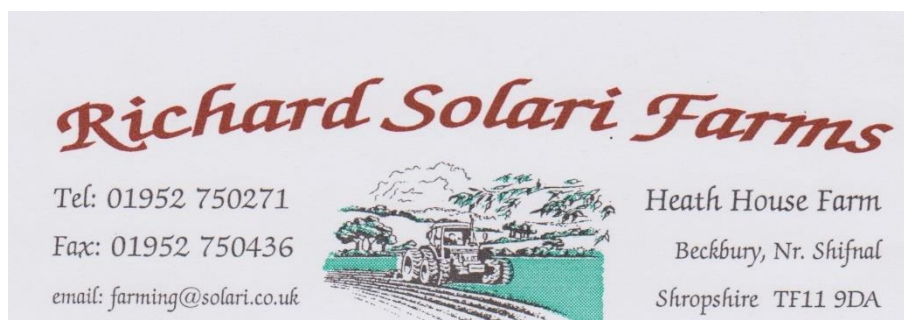
The UK's most senior counter terrorism officer, Assistant Commissioner Mark Rowley, has launched a new 'Action Counters Terrorism', or 'ACT' campaign urging the public to report suspicious activity to the police. Mr Rowley told an audience of community and business representatives in Manchester that information from the public continues to help keep people safe by playing a significant part in recent successes in countering terrorism. However, officers need even more information to build better intelligence pictures on individuals or groups plotting attacks. This comes as the threat, which remains 'Severe' meaning an attack is highly likely, continues to diversify and expand. This is seen in cases where terrorists have been able to reach across the world to radicalise often vulnerable, volatile or chaotic individuals and groups, and inspire and direct them using instant and secure communications.

Mr Rowley says "it is very encouraging that in a third of cases involving our most serious terrorist suspects we have benefitted from information from the public. The number of calls and online reports we receive is increasing. This is testament to people's trust in the police – but now we are appealing for even more. Counter terrorism policing is working hard to keep the public safe. Together, in the UK intelligence community (MI5, SIS, GCHQ) and police have disrupted 13 UK terrorist attack plots since June 2013. However, advances in technology make it more complex and challenging for us to spot would-be terrorists because it's easier for them to be in contact with others and be radicalised in a relatively short space of time. The threat is becoming more varied and the move towards low-tech attacks on crowded places, like those we have seen in major European cities and beyond, makes it even more important everyone remains vigilant and acts by calling us confidentially if they are concerned about suspicious activity".

Security Minister Ben Wallace adds: "The horror of recent terrorist attacks in Europe and beyond is a shocking reminder of the threat we all face. We know that we are not immune as the threat to the UK is currently assessed as 'Severe', meaning an attack is highly likely. Our police and security and intelligence agencies work tirelessly, often unseen, day in and day out to keep families and communities across the country safe. The public also have a vital role to play as they are ideally placed to notice activity which is unusual. I welcome the police's ACT campaign which raises awareness about what to look out for and provides people with easy-to-access advice.


Ultimately, this is a job for all of us. I encourage people to follow the campaign's message to remain alert but not alarmed by the threat and report any concerns to the police."

This month's newsletter is kindly sponsored by



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